# **Grow Three Layers**

## **( )** The Connection

Plant diversity is a good thing. Not only is it aesthetically pleasing and provides resources for more kinds of wildlife, but a diverse landscape is more resilient to disease and pests. Diversity does not only mean different types of plants but also different types of structures. Also called structural diversity, it represents the different layers found in a forest (overstory, midstory, and understory layers).

# Take Action

Maintain all three layers on the property (at least 1 mid-story or overstory tree, 3 shrubs or understory trees, and 10 ground layer perennial or grass) and earn 1 acorn.

#### **Acorns**



#### **Tracks**



#### **Instructions**

□ Provide all three of the following:
$\ \square$ 1 mid-story tree or overstory tree
3 shrubs or understory trees
10 ground layer perennial or grass

Our main webpage provides quick links to some suggested plants, planting sources, and planting instructions.

### From Our Partner: Georgia Master Gardeners

Consider the Georgia Master Gardener Program taught by the UGA Cooperative Extension Service. The Master Gardener program, typically offered through universities in the United States and Canada, provides intensive horticultural training to individuals who then volunteer as Master Gardeners in their communities by giving lectures, creating gardens, conducting research, and many other projects.

The mission of the Central Fulton County Master Gardener program is to "enthusiastically, voluntarily and responsibly promote the knowledge and dissemination of university-based applied research through a statewide network of Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners volunteer their expertise to help educate others through horticultural programs and projects that benefit the community."

After completing the extensive training program, Master Gardener candidates volunteer at least 25 hours at their local county extension office to earn their certification. To continue as an active Master Gardener, each will donate a minimum of 25 hours of time per year to community-oriented projects.

For more information on the Central Fulton County Master Gardeners and other local programs, please visit:

Central Fulton County: <a href="https://www.centralfultonmastergardeners.com/index.html">www.centralfultonmastergardeners.com/index.html</a>

Clayton County: www.extension.uga.edu/county-offices/clayton/agriculture-and-

natural-resources/master-gardeners.html

Cobb County: www.cobbmastergardeners.com/

DeKalb County: <a href="https://www.extension.uga.edu/county-offices/dekalb.html#top">www.extension.uga.edu/county-offices/dekalb.html#top</a>

Fayette County: <a href="https://www.fayettemga.org/">www.fayettemga.org/</a>

#### **Georgia Master Gardeners:**

www.extension.uga.edu/programs-services/georgia-master-gardener-extension-volunteer-program.html

**Gwinnett County:** www.gwinnettmastergardeners.com/

Henry County: www.extension.uga.edu/county-offices/henry/agriculture-and-

natural-resources/master-gardener-extension-volunteer-program.html

North Fulton County: www.nfmg.net/

**South Fulton County**: <a href="https://www.southfultonmastergardeners.com/">www.southfultonmastergardeners.com/</a>

### References

N/A